

A⁶ information are the shell extension 219, the NAP module 216, and the photofinishing lab 230. Information is passed between NAP module 216 and the photofinishing lab 230 via the network sales server 220 and the order processing server 222. The shell extension 219 first queries the NAP module 216 regarding its status (busy uploading, ready, pending order) and checks for an internet connection. The shell extension 219 can call a help file that provides the consumer 1 with information regarding printing at the photofinishing lab 230 and a jump to a relevant URL. The shell extension 219 writes thumbnail images to designated locations and passes the locations to the NAP module 216. The shell extension 219 also bundles JPEG files of correct resolution and job number to a single ZIP file and passes that file to the NAP module 216. The shell extension 219 also allows the consumer 1 the opportunity, on start-up, to send any aborted order that is pending.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel [✓]claims 1, 10, and 19 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein.

Please amend the claims as follows:

2. (Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the digital image is a digital photographic image.

A⁷ 3. (Amended) The method of claim 33, wherein the at least two of a plurality of different sources include a photo editing application, a digital device interface application, and a shell extension.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the ordering information includes pricing and merchandise availability.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the external network entity includes at least one of a server, photofinishing lab and third party fulfillment house.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the image-related service generates at least one of photographs and merchandise with photographs imprinted thereon.

7. (Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein said step of uploading delays uploading the digital image until an order for a plurality of digital images is complete.

8. (Amended) The method of claim 32, further comprising:
checking the digital image for image quality.

9. (Amended) The method of claim 33, wherein the at least two of a plurality of different sources include a photo editing application, a digital device interface application, a shell extension, and the external network entity.

11. (Amended) The computer program of claim 37, wherein the digital image is a digital photographic image.

12. (Amended) The computer program of claim 38, wherein the at least two of a plurality of different sources include a photo editing application, a digital device interface application, and a shell extension.

13. (Amended) The computer program of claim 37, wherein the ordering information includes pricing and merchandise availability.

14. (Amended) The computer program of claim 37, wherein the external network entity includes at least one of a server, photofinishing lab and third party fulfillment house.

15. (Amended) The computer program of claim 37, wherein the image-related service generates at least one of photographs and merchandise with photographs imprinted thereon.

16. (Amended) The computer program of claim 37, wherein the uploading code segment delays uploading the digital image until an order for a plurality of digital images is complete.

17. (Amended) The computer program of claim 37, further comprising:
a checking code segment for checking the digital image for image quality.

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18. (Amended) The computer program of claim 38, wherein the at least two of a plurality of different sources include a photo editing application, a digital device interface application, a shell extension, and the external network entity.

20. (Amended) The computer signal of claim 41, wherein the digital image is a digital photographic image.

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21. (Amended) The computer signal of claim 42, wherein the at least two of a plurality of different sources include a photo editing application, a digital device interface application, and a shell extension.

22. (Amended) The computer signal of claim 41, wherein the ordering information includes pricing and merchandise availability.

23. (Amended) The computer signal of claim 41, wherein the external network entity includes at least one of a server, photofinishing lab and third party fulfillment house.

24. (Amended) The computer signal of claim 41, wherein the image-related service generates at least one of photographs and merchandise with photographs imprinted thereon.

25. (Amended) The computer signal of claim 41, wherein the uploading segment delays uploading the digital image until an order for a plurality of digital images is complete.

26. (Amended) The computer signal of claim 41, further comprising:
a checking segment for checking the digital image for image quality.

27. (Amended) The computer signal of claim 42, wherein the at least two of a plurality of different sources include a photo editing application, a digital device interface application, a shell extension, and the external network entity.

28. (Amended) A network photo print system, comprising:

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a user station, capable of running

a camera/scanner applications program for supplying first image data to the user station,

a photo editing applications program for supplying second image data to the user station,

an operating system, including an operating system desktop shell interface and an extension to the operating system desktop shell interface, the shell extension supplying third image data to the user station, and

a network access protocol module capable of receiving any one of the first, second, and third image data, receiving order and merchandise availability information from an external network entity; processing an order based on any one of the first, second, and third image data, and outputting any one the first, second, and third image data;

a network sales/order processing server for receiving the order and for receiving any one the first, second, and third image data image data from the user station after receiving the order; and

A⁹ a photofinishing lab for producing photographic-quality prints images based on the order and any one the first, second, and third image data from the network sales/order processing server.

29. (Amended) The network photo print system of claim 28, wherein said network access protocol module delays the outputting any one the first, second, and third image data to said network sales/order processing server until the order for a plurality of images is complete.

Please add the following new claims:

A¹⁰ --32. (New) A method of on-line ordering of image-related services, comprising:
receiving, at a user station, a digital image;
establishing a network connection between said user station and an external network entity;
exchanging ordering information, between said user station and said external network entity, for an image-related service for said digital image; and
uploading said digital image to said external network entity or another external network entity in accordance with the previously exchanged ordering information.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein

said user station receives digital images from at least two of a plurality of different sources.

34. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein

said user station receives said digital image using a shell extension of an operating system to access said digital image from a file system.

35. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein

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said user station displays a locally stored thumbnail image corresponding to said digital image while said ordering information is exchanged between said user station and said external network entity.

36. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein

said external network entity receives, via said network connection, a pointer to said thumbnail image locally stored at said user station.

37. (New) A computer program embodied in a computer-readable medium for on-line ordering of image-related services, comprising:

a receiving code segment for receiving, at a user station, a digital image;

a network connection code segment for establishing a network connection between said user station and an external network entity;

an ordering code segment for exchanging ordering information, between said user station and said external network entity, for an image-related service for said digital image; and

an uploading code segment for uploading said digital image to said external network entity or another external network entity in accordance with the previously exchanged ordering information.

38. (New) The invention of claim 37, wherein

said user station receives digital images from at least two of a plurality of different sources.

39. (New) The invention of claim 37, wherein said computer program embodied on said computer-readable medium further comprises:

a display code segment for displaying on said user station a locally stored thumbnail image corresponding to said digital image while said ordering information is exchanged between said user station and said external network entity.

40. (New) The invention of claim 39, wherein said computer program embodied on said computer-readable medium further comprises:

a thumbnail image transmitting code segment for sending, to said external network, a pointer to said thumbnail image locally stored at said user station.

41. (New) A computer signal for on-line ordering of image-related services, comprising:

a receiving segment for receiving, at a user station, a digital image;

a network connection segment for establishing a network connection between said user station and an external network entity;

an ordering segment for exchanging ordering information, between said user station and said external network entity, for an image-related service for said digital image; and

an uploading segment for uploading said digital image to said external network entity or another external network entity in accordance with the previously exchanged ordering information.

42. (New) The invention of claim 41, wherein

said user station receives digital images from at least two of a plurality of different sources.

43. (New) The invention of claim 41, wherein

said user station receives said digital image using a shell extension of an operating system to access said digital image from a file system.

44. (New) The invention of claim 41, wherein said computer signal further comprises:

a display segment for displaying on said user station a locally stored thumbnail image corresponding to said digital image while said ordering information is exchanged between said user station and said external network entity.

45. (New) The invention of claim 44, wherein said computer signal further comprises:

a thumbnail image pointer transmitting segment for sending, to said external network, a pointer to said thumbnail image locally stored at said user station.

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46. (New) The invention of claim 28, wherein said user station displays a locally stored thumbnail image corresponding to any one of the first, second, and third image data while sending ordering information to said network sales/order processing server.

47. (New) The invention of claim 46, wherein said network access protocol module sends said network sales/order processing server a pointer to said thumbnail image locally stored at said user station.--

48. (New) The invention of claim 37, wherein
said user station receives said digital image using a shell extension of an operating system to access said digital image from a file system.
